PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXPRESS MAIL NO. <u>EV351234855US</u>

Appl No.

: N/A

Confirmation No.

Applicant

: Akihiro Oota

Filed

: July 31, 2003

Title

: PATTERN-MATCHING PROCESSING METHOD AND IMAGE

PROCESSING APPARATUS

TC/A.U.

: N/A

Examiner

: N/A

Docket No. : 50857/DBP/A400

Customer No.: 23363

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Post Office Box 7068

P.O. Box 1450

Pasadena, CA 91109-7068

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 31, 2003

Commissioner:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.